REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Overview of the Office Action

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15-20, and 22-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,760,788) in view of Banning et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,485,567).

Claims 3-7, 21, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Washburn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,157,779).

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Peddada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,533).

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Gupta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,156).

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view in view of Gupta in further view of O'Donnell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,223,203).

Status of the Claims/Amendments

Claims 1-9 and 12-28 are pending.

Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15-20, and 22-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini et al. in view of Banning. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15-20, and 22-27 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1, 15, and 22 include features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely, as represented by claim 1:

> A computerized system for software development comprising:
> a source code editor operable to edit a source code module;
> a graphical design surface operable to display a graphical object representing actual code of the source code module; and
> wherein upon a change in the source code module, the change in the source code is immediately communicated to the graphical design surface and the graphical design surface is

updated to reflect the change in the source code module, wherein the design surface displays the graphical object, the graphical object represents a database object, the design surface is operative to bind a particular database system to the database object, the database object further includes a database column, the source code module includes a variable, and the design surface is operative to bind the database column to the variable. (emphasis added)

The present invention as recited in claim 1 is directed to a system that comprises a source code editor that can edit a source code module, and a graphical design surface that can display a graphical object representing code of the source code module. The graphical design surface displays a database object, including a database column. The graphical design surface can bind the database column to a variable of the source code module.

Chainini is directed to a graphical programming application that is intended to be run under a graphic user interface operating system. As acknowledged by the Office Action, Chainini fails to disclose or suggest a graphical object representing a database object, including a database column.

The Office Action states that Banning discloses a graphical object representing a column of a database. However, Banning is merely directed to displaying the contents of a database to a user and allowing the user to change the contents of the database, but this is completely unrelated to graphical programming.

Banning lacks any suggestion or motivation to apply its teachings to a graphical programming application or, in particular, to a "a graphical design surface operable to display a graphical object representing actual code of the source code module", and Chainini lacks any suggestion or motivation to incorporate the teachings of Banning to graphically represent a database object in a graphical design surface representing actual code of the source code module. The only suggestion or motivation provided by the Examiner to combine the references is "because one would be motivated to clearly and concisely convey particular aspects of a database to a user and make changes via a window of information as taught by Banning"; however, the teaching, suggestion, or motivation to make this combination for this reason is not found in either reference and is apparently based solely on applicants' disclosure using hindsight reconstruction — and is thus improper.

Claims 15 and 22 recite similar features as those set forth above with respect to claim 1. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 15 and 22, and all claims dependent therefrom, including claims 2, 8, 9, 16-20, and 23-27, should not be rejected as being unpatentable over Chainini and Banning. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15-20, and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-7, 21, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Washburn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,157,779). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Peddada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,533). Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view of Gupta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,156). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chainini in view of Banning and further in view in view of Gupta in further view of O'Donnell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,223,203).

It is respectfully submitted that claims 3-7, 12-14, 21, and 28 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 3-7 and 12-14 are dependent from claim 1, claim 21 is dependent from claim 15, and claim 28 is dependent from claim 22, and are therefore patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1, 15, and 22. Washburn, Peddada, Gupta, and O'Donnell each fail to cure the deficiencies of the Chainini and Banning references. Washburn is directed to a user extensible automated testing system. Peddada is directed to a graphical user interface on a client network device. Gupta is directed to a server that uses a hierarchical annotation storage structure. O'Donnell is directed to performing parallel management operations on a computer system. None of this prior art discloses or suggests a graphical object representing a database object, including a database column, and none of this prior art provides motivation for combining a database object with the teachings of the Chainini reference. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3-7, 12-14, 21, and 28 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

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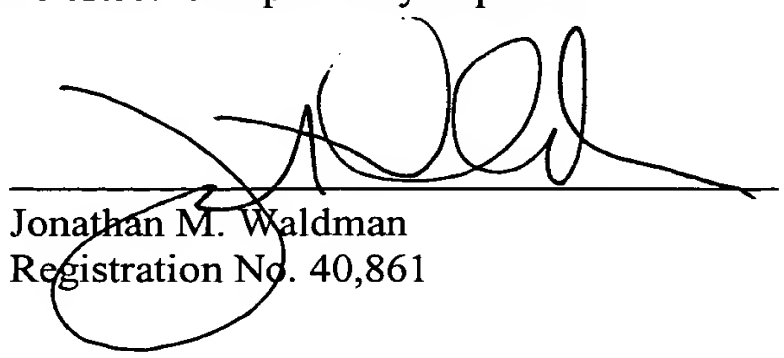

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